

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8740

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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USOECD

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, UN, OECD, PFOR, EFIN, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH GOVERNMENT EVALUATES CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC COOPERATION

REF: 76ANKARA 6088

1. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HELD HIGH-LEVEL ALL-DAY
MEETING AUGUST 26 TO MAKE THOROUGH EVALUATION OF RESULTS
OF CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION
(CIEC) AND, BY EXTENSION, OF TURKEY'S POSITION
IN CONTINUING NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AND VIS-A-VIS NEW
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INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. MEETING ENDED IN
CONSENSUS THAT TURKEY HAD NO POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC
INTERESTS IN FOLLOWING IDEAS OF G-77 EXCEPT THOSE FEW
IDEAS THAT MIGHT BE TURLY RELEVANT TO TURKISH LEVEL OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, METIN KARACA, DIRECTOR GENERAL,
MFA INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, TOLD
ECON COUNSELOR AUGUST 31. MEETING WITH CHARIED BY

SUKRU ELEKDAG, MFA SECRETARY GENERAL, AND ADDRESSED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL.

2. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY INQUIRY AUGUST 26, NAZIF CUHRUK, MFA DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SAID MEETING WOULD NOT RESULT IN ANY RECOMMENDATIONS OR DECISIONS. HE CLAIMED THAT IT WAS TO BE IN NATURE OF A SEMINAR, SET UP TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PRESENCE IN TURKEY OF VACATIONING TURKISH AMBASSADORS. PAPERS REPORTED THAT AMBASSADORS TO UN AT NEW YORK AND GENEVA, OECD, NATO, AND EC ATTENDED. KARACA SAID THE ONLY ONE CALLED IN FOR THE OCCASION WAS TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO OECD.

3. YILDIRIM KESKIN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, MFA, CONFIRMED AGUST 29 THAT MEETING HAD BEEN ESSENTIALLY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT NO NEW POLICIES WOULD EMERGE AS A DIRECT CONSEQUENCE OF IT. BASIS OF DISCUSSION, HE SAID, WAS REPORT PREPARED BY A COMMITTEE WITHIN MFA. KESKIN DENIED PRESS REPORT THAT MEETING HAD REVIEWED TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THIS, HE SAID, WAS SUBJECT OF ANOTHER COMMITTEE REPORT WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. (KARACA SAID THAT EC RELATIONS HAD ONLY BEEN MENTIONED IN PASSING.)

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4. BOTH KARACA AND KESKIN REPORTED THAT PARTICIPANTS WERE UNDER STRICT INJUNCTION NOT TO TALK ABOUT DETAILS OF DISCUSSION.

5. CUMHURIYET, SEPTEMBER 2, DID HOWEVER, THROW LIGHT ON PROBABLE DIALECTICAL TENSIONS OF THE MEETING. NEWSPAPER STATED THAT REPORT FORMING BASIS OF DISCUSSION, PREPARED BY "YOUNG DIPLOMATS" AND RECOMMENDING CLOSER APPROACH TO THIRD WORLD, WAS NOT ACCEPTED BY TURKISH AMBASSADORS PRESENT. AMBASSADORS WERE SAID TO HAVE MAINTAINED THAT TURKEY COULD PROMOTE ITS RELATIONS WITH G-77 WITHOUT LEAVING WEST. COSKUN KIRCA AND TEVFIK SARACOGLU, AMBASSADORS TO NATO AND EC, REPORTEDLY ARGUED THAT IF TURKEY WERE TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH G-77, IT COULD FALL UNDER POLITICAL PRESSURES IN ITS ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ECONOMIC BENEFITS. OTHER TOP OFFICIALS CONCURRED. MEETING ORDERED REVISION OF REPORT. ITS COOL RECEPTION WAS SAID TO HAVE CAUSED SOME DISCONTENT WITHIN MFA.

6. COMMENT. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT VIEWS PREVAILING AT MEETING SUPPORTED FUNDAMENTAL TURKISH ALIGNMENT WITH OECD RATHER

THAN WITH G-77. KARACA COMMENTED TO ECON COUNSELOR A YEAR
AGO THAT TURKEY HAD DECIDED AGAINST JOINING G-77 BECAUSE
GROUP DISCIPLINE PERMITTED LITTLE DEVIATION OF VIEWS AND
THAT G-77 POLITICAL OBJECTIVES SOMETIMES OVERRODE
THE CONOMIC INTERESTS OF ITS MEMBERS.
SPIERS

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